

Andover Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

**Chief Sanitary Inspector
and Surveyor**

**for the Year ended
31st December, 1949**

**Council Offices
Junction Road, Andover, Hants**

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health :

A. A. COCKAYNE, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

R. J. RICHARDS, C.S.I.B., M.R.I.P.H.H., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

J. A. DEAN, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Technical Assistant :

K. J. W. BURNETT.

Sanitary Inspector's Chief Clerk :

(Miss) M. E. M. SMITH.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF ANDOVER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

LADIES AND GENTLEMAN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1949.

VITAL STATISTICS

The birth rate for the district remains above the average. The death rate of 10.0 compares favourably with that for England and Wales. The death rate for infants is 26.0 compared with 32 for England and Wales. Generally the statistics indicate no undue abnormality in the health or social conditions of the area.

HOUSING

Applicants for Council houses numbered 347 at the close of 1949, a decrease of nearly 100 on last year's figure. A total of 75 new houses were built by the Council, and 27 hutments adapted or converted in an effort to alleviate the position; 18 houses were built by private owners.

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE

The preparation of sewerage and water schemes for many parishes in the district continued. Constructional work was commenced by the Pewsey Rural District Council on the sewerage of Ludgershall, and sewers were extended to include Faberstown, which is within this district.

WATER SUPPLIES

There was apprehension over the low water level in the private wells in the district during the very dry summer, but no large scale scheme of conveying water by vehicle had to be organised.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There were no serious outbreaks during the year, and no recorded cases of food poisoning. There was one fatal case of diphtheria at Longparish. Six cases of poliomyelitis occurred during the year, with no deaths.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

A total of 244 children were immunised during the year, 232 under the age of 5 years and 12 between 5 and 14.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. A. COCKAYNE,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area—67,811 Acres

Registrar General's Estimate of Civilian Population 12,800

Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population 15,020

Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population

under 15 years of age 3,144

Number of Inhabited Houses according to the Rate Books 3,549

Rateable Value £85,374

Sum represented by a Penny Rate £296 6 3

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth Rates per 1,000 of Estimated Civilian Population 24.06

Live Births

Total. Male. Female

Legitimate 289 144 145

Illegitimate 19 10 9

Still Births

Legitimate 6 3 3

Illegitimate — — —

Deaths 128 78 50

Still Births Rates per 1,000 total (live and still) Births 19.1

Death Rates per 1,000 estimated average Population 10.0

Male. Female

Deaths of Infants under 1 year 6 2

Death Rates of all Infants per 1,000 live Births 26.0

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis Nil

No. 30 Other Puerperal Causes 1

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 18

Deaths from Measles (all ages) Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) Nil

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH

Males. Females.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever — —

Cerebro-Spinal Fever — —

Scarlet Fever — —

Whooping Cough — —

Diphtheria 1

Tuberculosis of Respiratory System 2 —

Other Forms of Tuberculosis — —

Syphilis 1 —

Influenza — —

Measles — —

Poliomyelitis	....	....	....	....	—	—
Encephalitis	....	....	....	....	—	—
Cancer	....	....	....	....	13	5
Diabetes	....	....	....	....	2	—
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	....	....	....	....	10	11
Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	31	15
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	....	....	....	....	2	3
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	2	2
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	5	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	....	....	....	....	1	—
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	....	....	....	....	—	—
Diarrhoea	....	....	....	....	—	—
Appendicitis	....	....	....	....	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	....	....	....	....	1	1
Nephritis	....	....	....	....	—	—
Puerperal Sepsis	....	....	....	....	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	....	....	....	....	—	1
Premature Births	....	....	....	....	4	—
Congenital Causes	....	....	....	....	1	1
Suicide	....	....	....	....	1	—
Road Traffic	....	....	....	....	—	2
Other Violence	....	....	....	....	—	1
All Other Causes	....	....	....	....	2	4
TOTAL DEATHS				....	78	50

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The Rural District Council is not a Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

1. Laboratory Facilities

(a) The Public Health Laboratory at Winchester undertakes the bacteriological examination of samples, and issues material for diphtheria immunisation. The County Laboratory at The Castle, Winchester, undertakes chemical examinations.

Ambulance Facilities

(b) Ambulances for infectious cases are supplied by the Isolation Hospital at Salisbury, whilst accidents and non-infectious cases are dealt with by two Ambulances, under the control of the County Council, stationed at Andover.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER SUPPLY

There have been no extensions or improvements during the year.

The population of the district largely derives its water supply from wells and bores sunk in the chalk. The potential risk of water borne disease is ever present and a large number of samples taken during the year gives a clear indication that open wells and shallow drive bores are often intermittently polluted.

The public water supplies were examined bacteriologically at regular intervals and one chemical analysis of each public supply was carried out. In each case the water was proved to be of excellent quality.

The particulars of population supplied by public mains are as follows:—

	<i>No. of Houses Supplied from Mains.</i>	<i>No. of Popu- lation supplied by Stand- Pipe.</i>
Appleshaw, part Fyfield, Kimpton	.... 167	64
Vernham Dean	.... 80	25
Shipton Bellinger	.... 193	—
South Tedworth, a War Department establishment, has its own supply.		

2. PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection of indestructible refuse and salvage is undertaken in all parishes.

Regular emptying of pail closets and cesspools is carried out by contract in the parish of Shipton Bellinger.

4. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Inspections for Nuisances....	....	....	52
Drainage Tests and Inspections	....	....	47
Rooms Disinfected	....	....	15
Dairies and Cowshed Inspections	....	....	125
Inspections of Water Supplies	....	....	385
Slaughterhouse Inspections	....	....	2

Shops and Offices

No special action was taken under the provisions of the Shops Acts.

Smoke Abatement

It was not found necessary to take any action.

National Assistance Act, 1948

No action was taken by the Council during the year under the Act.

Factories

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes or provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector) :

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of .</i>	
		<i>Inspec- tions</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	20	17	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—
TOTAL	24	19	2

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND :

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>	
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	4	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)....	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)....	—	—
(a) Insufficient	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	3	2
(c) Not separate for Sexes	—	—
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—
TOTALS	7	6

SCHOOLS

During the year two surveys of the sanitary conditions at the schools in the district were carried out. Reports were compiled and submitted to the Council, copies being sent to the County Council and other responsible authorities. The School Managers executed decorations and minor repairs where possible, and in one instance improvement was made by the installation of wash-basins.

As a result of the reports, the Council passed a resolution deploring the state of the sanitary arrangements and facilities in the Schools.

It has followed that the Education Authority scheduled the undermentioned schools only for development in the future :

Shipton Bellinger

Wherwell

Kimpton

Hurstbourne Tarrant (development doubtful)

SECTION D

HOUSING INSPECTIONS

- | | | | | |
|----|-----|---|------|-----|
| 1. | (a) | Total number of Dwelling-Houses inspected for housing defects (under P.H., or Housing Acts) | .... | 155 |
| | (b) | Number of Inspections made for the purpose | .... | 171 |
| 2. | (a) | Number of Dwelling-Houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under H. Con. Reg. 1925 and 1932) | .... | 31 |
| | (b) | Number of Inspections made for the purpose | .... | 46 |
| | (c) | Number of Houses in which no action was found necessary | .... | Nil |
| 3. | | Number of Dwelling-Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | .... | 9 |
| 4. | | Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of these referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.... | .... | 22 |

Housing Action

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|------|------|-----|
| (a) | Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | .... | .... | 6 |
| (b) | Number of Houses demolished voluntarily or in consequence of informal action | .... | .... | Nil |

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|------|------|-----|
| (1) | Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | | | Nil |
|-----|---|------|------|-----|

- (2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :—
- | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|-----|
| (a) By Owners | .... | .... | .... | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners | .... | .... | .... | Nil |

Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

- (1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied Nil
- (2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :—
- | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|------|------|-----|
| (a) By Owners | .... | .... | .... | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority | .... | .... | .... | Nil |

Proceedings under Sections 11, 13 and 26 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 2
- (2) Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil
- (3) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which undertaking was given not to let 7

Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- (1) Number of separate Tenements or underground Rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil
- (2) Number of separate Tenements or underground Rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the Tenement or Room having been made fit Nil

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

No. of Registered Producers	....	....	....	105
Number of Registered Producer/Retailers	....	....	....	14
Number of Registered Retailers	....	....	....	3
Number of Registered Retailers outside Area selling milk within the area	....	....	....	5

On October 1st, 1949, new legislation controlling the production, storage, treatment and distribution of milk came into force. The local Sanitary Authority lost its powers with respect to the control of dairy farms and Pasteurising Establishments to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and Food and Drugs Authority respectively. The local Sanitary Authority now controls "distributors" only.

Number of Distributors retailing milk in the area....	7
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CONTROL OF FOOD PREMISES

Many regular inspections of cafe premises were carried out during the year, and in three cases strong action was taken, one proprietor being served with Statutory Notices. The issue of a summons was not, however, found necessary.

A number of applications was received from persons wishing to retail ice cream. In the majority of cases the applications were for sale of pre-packed ice cream, and this was allowed where there was no risk of contamination.

There is only one manufacturer of ice cream in the district, and samples have shown that the standard of cleanliness maintained is high.

During the year inspection of the Licensed Houses within the district was carried out, and as a result considerable improvement was obtained, drainage systems and washing facilities being installed in 25 houses. Many such houses were re-decorated and otherwise improved. The absence of a bar sink is now exceptional, but the provision of running hot water supply for the effective cleansing of glasses is still required in a number of licensed houses.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	<i>Cattle Excl. Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	—	—	—	—	—
Number inspected	—	—	—	—	—
All diseases except T.B. whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only whole carcases	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—

Number of Bakehouse in District—10.

Number of offensive Trades carried on in District—1.

A complaint of offensive smell was received, and it was found that the extractor was not in operation efficiently. This matter was taken up with the owners and rectified.

FOOD INSPECTION

The following food was condemned during the year:—

Fresh Herrings	....	....	....	9½lbs.
Luncheon Sausage	....	....	....	7ozs.
Veal and Ham Pie	....	....	....	5½lbs.
Beef Sausages	....	....	....	28lbs.
Sliced Sausage and Savory Meats	....	....	....	4lbs. 9ozs.
Brawn	....	....	....	8lbs.
Meat Pies	....	....	....	8lbs.
Cornish Pasties	....	....	....	12
Sausage Rolls	....	....	....	4
Bacon (sliced)	....	....	....	3lbs. 6ozs.
Chocolate Biscuits	....	....	....	4lbs. 6ozs.
Miscellaneous Biscuits	....	....	....	5lbs. 2ozs.
Cheese Cakes	....	....	....	45

Note : The above food was damaged in a fire.

Bacon	....	....	....	29½lbs.
Cheese	....	....	....	13lbs.

Canned Foods

Jam and Marmalade	....	....	....	3 tins
Peas	....	....	....	9 tins
Beans	....	....	....	3 tins
Beetroot	....	....	....	8 tins
Milk	....	....	....	7 tins
Soup	....	....	....	3 tins
Baked Beans	....	....	....	1 tin

WATER SUPPLY

Number of samples taken for bacteriological examination	330
Number of samples reported satisfactory	.... 215
Number of samples reported not entirely satisfactory	.... 44
Number of samples reported unsatisfactory	.... 71

Adulteration

The Council is not a Food and Drugs Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

SECTION F

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

During the year under review the following children were immunised against Diphtheria, viz. :—

Diphtheria Immunisation

Children under 5 years	....	....	....	....	232
Children over 5 years	....	....	....	....	12
Booster Doses	....	....	....	....	32

Infectious Diseases

				<i>Civilian</i>	<i>Military</i>
Scarlet Fever	....	....	....	8	—
Diphtheria	....	....	....	1	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	....	....	....	1	—
Erysipelas	....	....	....	1	—
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	....	....	....	12	2
Non-Pulmonary	....	....	....	2	—
Measles	....	....	....	149	—
Whooping Cough	....	....	....	5	1
Chicken Pox	....	....	....	3	1
Poliomyelitis	....	....	....	4	2
Meningitis	....	....	....	2	—
Pneumonia	....	....	....	—	1

ANDOVER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1949

To the Chairman and Members of the Andover Rural District Council

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1949.

HOUSING

There has been little improvement in the general standard of houses during the year, due largely to difficulties connected with Building Licensing and to the economic position in which the landlord finds himself by reason of comparatively high building costs and low rental income.

The Housing Act, 1949, came into operation during the year. This Act afforded certain grants for approved schemes of repair and adaptation, but as far as this rural district is concerned, it is unlikely, in my opinion, that many applications will be forthcoming, owing to the necessity of "freeing" a "tied cottage" before a grant can be made. No applications had been received by the end of the year.

New houses built totalled 93, of which 75 were completed by the District Council, and 18 by private enterprise.

Forty-eight houses were in course of erection by the Council at the end of the year.

The conversion of 11 hutments, to form 19 dwellings, was completed at Chilbolton, and the administration of a further camp site in that parish, consisting of 12 dwellings, was transferred from the Air Ministry.

It was found possible to recommend the Ministry of Health to de-requisition four houses during the year, leaving a total of seven houses, in which there were 22 family units, still under requisition.

At the end of the year the properties under the control of this Council, for housing purposes, were as follows:—

Permanent Traditional Houses (pre-war schemes)	....	156
Permanent Traditional Houses (post-war schemes)	....	207
Prefabricated Temporary Bungalows	....	32
Requisitioned Properties (family units)	....	22
Converted ex-Service Hutments	....	178
Total	....	595

From this it will be seen that, since the war, a total of 388 family units has been provided, and that with the applications on the Council's files, some 547 permanent houses are still required.

Some of the Nissen type hutments are rapidly deteriorating and, in order to preserve their use for occupation, a considerable amount of maintenance is almost constantly necessary. This is a matter which has received considerable attention by the Council's Housing Committee.

CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING

There was no relaxation in the control of civil building during the year. One prosecution was found necessary, when works were carried out without licence, and a conviction was obtained.

Licenses were granted as follows :—

(a) New Houses—Private Enterprise	....	....	11
(b) Conversions and Adaptations	....	....	7
(c) Other Work	....	....	43
			—
			61
			—
Applications for Licences refused	....	....	1

Plans

Plans submitted for approval under the Council's Building Bye-laws numbered 132, all of which were approved.

Town Planning

The control of development continues under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, administered by the County Council from the area office at Winchester.

During the year development applications were dealt with by the County Council as follows :—

Permission	....	....	....	....	130
Refusal	....	....	....	....	10

There were two appeals against refusal notices and inquiries were held, following which the appeals were upheld and approval was given.

WATER SUPPLIES

Samples of water for bacteriological examination taken during the year showed 215 as satisfactory, 44 not entirely satisfactory and 71 unsatisfactory. All public and Council house supplies were satisfactory. All unsatisfactory samples proved to be of water derived from shallow wells.

Eight new boreholes were sunk in the district.

The preparation of a detailed scheme for the supply of water to the district has been proceeded with by the Council's Consulting Engineers.

Progress has been, of necessity, slow, but definite progress has been made, in that the Ministry of Health has now informally laid down a policy for the supply of the area.

Briefly, the position is :—

(a) The Council's experimental borehole at Ibthorpe should serve the majority of the Northern and Western parishes, with a portion of the adjoining Kingsclere and Whitchurch Rural District.

(b) The Andover Borough source should supply Sman-nell, Abbots Ann, Upper Clatford, Goodworth Clatford and Wherwell.

(c) Longparish should be served by an extension of a main down the valley from the Whitchurch source, and

(d) Winchester Rural District Council supply should be extended to supply Bullington, Barton Stacey, and Chilbolton.

Following this statement of policy at an informal meeting, at the Ministry of Health, in September, 1949, the Council's Consulting Engineers are conferring with the Engineers for the adjoining authorities before being able to submit a detailed scheme for submission to the Ministry of Health for approval.

The year was an exceptionally dry one, and a number of wells dried up. The position, however, was generally dealt with satisfactorily, and no general water haulage was necessary.

At the end of the year the position regarding water supplies in the area was approximately as follows:—

Number of houses supplied from Local Authority and			
Water Company sources	....	....	1070
Number of houses supplied from private piped supplies			100
Number of houses supplied from private wells and			
boreholes	....	....	2365
Number of houses supplied from rainwater tanks	....		14
			<hr/>
			3549
			<hr/>

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

An Inquiry was held at Shipton Bellinger on December 1st into the proposal to lay sewers and construct sewage disposal works, but at the end of the year no decision had been received.

A scheme for the sewerage of Chilbolton and Wherwell was prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers, approved by the County Council as far as Chilbolton was concerned, and forwarded to the Ministry of Health for approval. This scheme will receive the drainage from the Council's houses in course of erection at Chilbolton.

Negotiations and preparation of necessary schemes were also in progress for Abbots Ann, Upper Clatford, Goodworth Clatford, Kimpton, Fyfield, Thruxton, East Cholderton, Amport, Monxton and Hurstbourne Tarrant.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The centralised slaughtering of animals outside the district has continued.

Two licences in respect of private slaughterhouses were renewed.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

These are in fairly satisfactory condition.

Two certificates of satisfactory water supply were issued.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES

Special attention was directed to dairy farms producing non-designated milk. In two cases new cowsheds were constructed where conditions were very unsatisfactory. In an effort to improve the general standard of farm dairies producing non-designated milk, periodical visits were paid to retailers and producer/retailers.

A total of 28 samples were taken from non-T.T. herds for examination for the presence of tuberculosis. All samples proved to be negative.

On October 1st, 1949, new and comprehensive Regulations were introduced to control dairy farms, distributors and the sale of designated and raw milks. The control of dairy farms passed from the Local Authority to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Local Authority controls "distributors" only, of which there are now only three whose premises are situated within the district. Six distributors are registered whose premises are situated outside the district.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND SALVAGE

The amount of salvageable materials collected and sold during 1949 was as follows :—

				<i>Weight</i>		<i>Value</i>
				<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	
Baled Paper and Cardboard			....	46	9	£226
Jars and Bottles	....	....	....	—	—	£—
Bones	....	....	....	—	7	£2
Rag and Sacking	....	....	....	3	5	£47
Metals	....	....	....	11	15	£33
Totals	....	....	....	61	16	£308

A new "Karrier" 12 cubic yard refuse collection vehicle was received and a weekly collection commenced on 1st April, 1949, with the result that there was a 50% increase in waste paper above the weight sold in 1948. Unfortunately, selling prices of salvage decreased and there was no market for jars and bottles. In consequence the total receipts were less than those of the previous year.

Controlled tipping continues at the central dump at Appleshaw.

RODENT CONTROL

This is administered as a joint scheme under a Committee comprising members of the Rural District and Borough Councils.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. J. RICHARDS,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.



